

Fort Sheridan Saddlers' and Stable
Sargeants' Building (Building No. 78)
South side of Ronan Rd.
Fort Sheridan
Lake County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-1113-23

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/23-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. IL-1113-23

FORT SHERIDAN, SADDLERS' AND STABLE SARGEANTS' BUILDING
(Building No. 78)

FORT SHERIDAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/23-

Location: On the south side of Ronan Road between two
Cavalry Stables (Buildings No. 42 and 62).
Fort Sheridan, Lake County, Illinois.

USGS Highland Park Quadrangle, Universal Transverse
Mercator Coordinates: 16. 432990. 4673690.

Present Owner
and Occupant: United States Army.

Present Use: Non-Commissioned Officer's Quarters.

Significance: A Holabird and Roche building which was designed to serve
as a Saddlers' and Stable Sargeants' Building and which
adds to the comprehensiveness of the 19th century historic
building inventory at Fort Sheridan.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1892.
2. Architect: Holabird and Roche, Chicago.
3. Original and subsequent owners: U.S. Army from date of construction to the present.
4. Contractor: Jonathan Clark and Sons and Company.
5. Original plan and construction: A square building with a pyramidal roof and an inset porch covering the entire facade. The main entrance is on the north side. Constructed of buff-cream brick, the building was intended to house eight men.
6. Alterations and additions: The original slate roof has been covered with cement asbestos shingles, and the porch on the facade has been enclosed with screens. The entrances and windows have been modified. At some point, the records indicate 1945 or earlier, the interior was remodeled to serve as a residence for non-commissioned officers.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Original architectural drawings:

Holabird and Root, 300 West Adams St., Chicago, Illinois. 60606.
Plans, elevations, details of building. Full scale details of
cornice work, porch and gutter. Drawings are water damaged.

2. Old views:

Mackern, H. G. Fort Sheridan: At Attention and Rest, Chicago,
H. G. Mackern, 1897, n.p.

Views of Fort Sheridan, ca. 1897, Record Group 92, Audio Visual
Archives, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C.
Reference No. 92-F-61-B-3.

3. Bibliography:

Papers Relating to Fort Sheridan. Office of the Quartermaster
General Consolidated Correspondence Files, 1784-1915 and Office
of the Quartermaster General, Construction Division, Record Group
92. U.S. Army Continental Command, 6th Corps Area Records,
Record Group 394, (contains specifications) National Archives and
Records Service, Washington, D.C.

Real Property Records, Directorate of Facilities Engineering,
Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

Prepared by Sally Kress Tompkins
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
June 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A square single-story brick building with
a pyramidal roof and full inset porch with brick piers having stone
caps. The house has little decorative trim. Architectural features
include a hipped dormer on the facade and overhanging eaves with

outriggers. The building can not be classified as relating to any architectural style, but in many respects seems a precursor of the bungalow style which became so popular in the next decade.

2. Condition of fabric: The building appears to be structurally sound. The wood trim shows signs of deterioration, and the paint is peeling. The brick is dirty.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: A single-story square building measuring 31'-1" by 31'-1" with four bays across the facade.
2. Foundations: Limestone rubble covered with cement.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Buff-cream brick laid in common bond with five rows of stretchers to one of headers. The exterior walls are 16" thick. A belt course encircles the building above the lintels of the windows.
4. Structural system, framing: Brick bearing wall.
5. Porches: A single-story porch inset under an extension of the roof covers the entire facade. Four free-standing brick piers and two engaged brick piers support the roof. The piers have inset stone bands and stone caps. The bands have been painted black. Above the piers is a denticulated frieze. The porch is approached by three concrete stairs which lead up to a central screen door. The porch floor is constructed of wood boards, 2-1/4" across. The ceiling is tongue and groove. Both are painted gray. The area between the piers below the porch floor has been enclosed by wide wood boards.
6. Chimneys: One interior tin chimney on the west side of the roof.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The entrances on the front and rear have segmental arched, flat topped, gauged brick lintels. The front entrance has been shortened and the area below the segmental arched lintel has been infilled with brick. The modified entrance is topped by a segmental arch formed by triple rowlocks. The door is paneled wood painted black. A second entrance on the facade has been infilled with brick.

- b. Windows: The windows have segmental arched, flat topped, gauged brick lintels. There were originally two windows on each of the four sides. A third window on the east side has been cut through. It has a flat arch formed by double rowlocks. One of the two windows on the rear has been shortened. The windows are double hung sash with lights varying from four-over-four to four-over-one. The original stone sills remain on the windows on the facade. The window sills on the other three sides have been covered with concrete. The frames are painted beige.
8. Roof:
- a. Shape, covering: The pyramidal roof extends over the porch on the facade. It is covered with cement asbestos shingles.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Overhanging eaves on the main roof and the roof of the dormer have wood soffits and outriggers with curved ends. The trim is painted beige.
 - c. Dormers: There is a hipped dormer on the facade with two single sash windows, each with three lights. The sides and roof of the dormers are covered with asbestos shingles.

C. Description of Interior:

- 1. Floor plans: The building is entered through the living room which is on the west side of the house. The kitchen and laundry room are located immediately behind the living room at the back of the house. A hallway opening off the rear of the living room provides access to two bedrooms on the east side of the house. There is no attic.
- 2. Flooring: Linoleum tile.
- 3. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster painted off white.
- 4. Mechanical equipment: Indoor plumbing was installed in the building in 1917 and it was probably already receiving electricity at that time. It has an individual warm air heating system fueled by oil.

D. Site:

The building is located on the south side of Ronan Road between two Cavalry Stables (Building No. 42 and 62) which are now used for other purposes. It faces north, and is situated on a grassy lot with shrubbery planted on both the east and west sides.

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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under the auspices of Interagency Archeological Services, Atlanta and funded by the U.S. Department of Army, Fort Sheridan, Illinois. It included a historical and architectural survey of the fort to provide the necessary data for implementation of the Fort Sheridan Historic District. Documentation was obtained on thirty-one buildings. The survey and documentation were accomplished by Sally Kress Tompkins, an architectural historian on the HABS staff, under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth Anderson, Principal Architect; Carolyn Pitts, Principal Historian; and Allen Chambers, architectural historian and editor. The photographs were taken by William Kumpf of Architectural Camera, Chicago.